

THE CONTEST

Marcus and his friends walked into the school auditorium with some suspicion. The principal had announced this meeting [invited/ during/ learned] opening assembly but had not said [help/ what/ many] it was about. The boys took [would/ parks/ their] seats near the back of the [room/ down/ then], hoping to avoid being seen by [got/ on/ the] group of giggling girls that seemed [a/ it/ to] follow them everywhere. Actually, Marcus didn't [doors/ think/ chair] the girls were all that bad, especially Maria, [mad/ jar/ but] he sure didn't want the guys [I/ to/ is] know how he felt.

Mrs. Graham, [did/ way/ the] principal, stood before the students [and/ got/ see] motioned at them to be quiet. [Year/ Then/ Home] she began speaking, "Well, students, I [have/ very/ with] a big surprise for you today. [It/ On/ As] is something I know you will [a/ be/ do] excited about. As you know, the playground equipment [is/ we/ go] in pretty bad shape and the P.T.A. [has/ our/ the] come up with a plan to [meadow/ eternal/ replace] it. We are going to have [if/ go/ a] candy selling contest!" Marcus and his [reverse/ friends/ fasten] stared at each other in disbelief. [Rent/ This/ Good] was Mrs. Graham's exciting surprise? There [had/ the/ you] been candy selling contests for as [long/ duty/ navy] as Marcus could remember. The school [grade/ every/ tried] to get the students to sell [would/ candy/ their] and as a reward they offered [unto/ some/ from] dinky little prize.

Marcus and his [friends/ smooth/ center] could hardly wait to leave. But Mrs. Graham [late/ was/ top] still talking. "The candy we will [no/ he/ be] selling is of the finest quality [and/ got/ sip] I just know you won't have [for/ you/ any] trouble selling it to your family, friends, [hit/ and/ pay] neighbors." "That's what you think," thought Marcus. Mrs. Graham [hard/ was/ much] winding up her speech and said "[A/ Us/ In] the past, you children have worked [hard/ left/ bath] and have earned some pretty terrific [really/ prizes/ where] but this year I think the prizes [are/ ate/ the] especially outstanding. For the top five [fined/ under/ candy] sellers, four will receive a new [next/ were/ bike]." "Big deal," thought Marcus, "I got [if/ so/ a] new bike for Christmas." "And for [the/ put/ had] top selling student," Mrs. Graham said, "[the/ be/ hit] grand prize will be a new VCR."

Marcus [the/ mom/ and] his friends could hardly believe their [ears/ corn/ star]. A VCR of their very own, [sat/ had/ one] that they could keep in their [was/ own/ get] rooms and watch whatever they wanted [to/ if/ at] on it. Marcus decided right then and [wants/ soda/ there] that this year he was going [is/ a/ to] sell the most candy and hurriedly [them/ went/ nuts] home to begin calling all his [family/ bought/ asked], friends, and neighbors.